

FY-2026 1st quarter report

ENVIRONMENTAL, LAND AND AGRICULTURE DIVISION

Status report of Outcomes/Goals

1. Which outcome/goal(s) does the Division wish to report on?
2. What metric is being used to measure the outcome/goal?
3. What are the accomplishments (i.e. positives, things for which the Division is proud, brags) have occurred over the reporting period that reflect the Division's progress for reaching the outcome/goal?
4. What can the community expect to see in the future (i.e. 6 months; next year; 18 months) from the Division related to the outcome/ goal?

Outcome/Goal # 1

Continuous review and improvement of current programming while also creating new programming based on community demand, to provide services to more of the community.

MEASUREMENT: Program evaluation measuring increased connection of our membership to themselves, our food system, and community.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS RELATED TO THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

In October, 'Mending the Disconnect with Food' offered it's 8th "Food is Medicine" workshop titled: "Tea, Healing, and Community" with Bonnie McKiernan. Participants shared in a communal meal and prepared both a "spirit lifter tea" and Oneida's #6 tea. Following the event, participants were asked to complete a survey. Here is what we learned: In the winter, 33% reported feeling sad, isolated or disconnected "almost always" or "often". Following the workshop, 91% felt inspired to invite others over to share tea/coffee or a meal. 90% believed that traditional Native medicines and practices should be a part of community health, 100% were very interested in visiting or supporting the reopening of a medicinal retail outlet with one person sharing "our community needs it" and another sharing: "I have been wanting to go more natural from Mother Earth for medicines, but I do not know where to go. I would love for that to open back up." When asked to share their experience with today's presentation, one person said "I loved this! Looking forward to more", another said: "This felt so much like home", another...."Very calming. A safe feeling". Other responses included: 1) "I was not judged when I felt vulnerable, and this group made me feel like I was not alone". 2) Everything was beyond my expectation 3) "Presenters were excellent, meal was great. The setting made me feel at home and comfortable".

On Saturday, October 25th, 'Mending the Disconnect' partnered with Kahulahale Farmstead to offer a chicken butchering workshop. The event was offered to both gardening members and those who received a coop in the spring. There was a total of 8 participants. They learned how to: setup and prepare for butchering, humanely harvest chickens, scald and pluck, eviscerate, package and store, and learned food, knife and equipment safety.

On December 2nd, 'Mending the Disconnect' hosted its 11th "Food is Medicine" workshop, "Beat Disease in the Kitchen". The workshop focused on introducing participants to the role of food in supporting health and preventing chronic disease. Of the six that attended, all reported at least one chronic health condition. During the session, participants prepared two different recipes in a hands-on kitchen setting. Participants were able to experience firsthand how these foods can be not only nourishing and satisfying, but also supportive of healing and overall well-being. Following the workshop, survey responses were collected....when asked "What are your thoughts on prescriptive food or plants or herbs (your doctor prescribing certain foods/herbs/plants in lieu of or in addition to your medication?), 83% reported wanting to be further educated on how to use food and herbs for prevention and treatment" with one person indicating "whenever possible, these items should be prescribed first". Following the workshop, 83% indicated that they planned on changing the way they eat, with all 100% reporting they would like to see Oneida Nation provide a "teaching kitchen" (to learn how to cook healthy and make healthy lifestyle changes).

EXPECTATIONS/FUTURE PLANS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

Across WPP's "Food is Medicine" workshops, several common themes have continued to emerge. The majority of participants report living with multiple chronic health conditions, most commonly including high blood pressure, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and obesity. Despite the presence of these conditions, participants frequently indicate that they have received little to no practical guidance from healthcare providers on how to use food to support their health beyond general advice to "eat better". Participants consistently express a strong interest in learning practical, hands-on skills related to cooking, food preparation, and using food to support health and wellness. Notably, there is widespread interest in the creation of a "teaching kitchen", which participants view as a critical space for learning how to apply "food is medicine" in their daily life and return to the foundational basics that have been lost in the kitchen.

These patterns highlight an ongoing need for accessible, culturally relevant education that helps individuals understand how to apply nutrition knowledge in their daily lives. We will continue to design and implement programming that provides space for this connection and reconnection and focuses on food-based health interventions.

In coordination, we intent to hire additional staff prior to the new Community Cannery opening to facilitate dedicated efforts to "food is medicine" curriculum. With the demonstration pods being a unique feature of the new facility, it is the perfect opportunity

for this to be utilized as a permanent teaching kitchen that the community is asking for and needs.

Outcome/Goal # 2

Expand and enhance best practices to improve the health of the Reservation's environment and the community.

MEASUREMENT: Direct environmental improvements and community engagement

ACCOMPLISHMENTS RELATED TO THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

Mike, Nathan and Tony all presented at the Wisconsin Tribal Transportation Conference held at the Oneida Hotel in October. Tony presented at the Annual Oneida Bird Monitoring Volunteer meeting in November. 3,556 walleye, 1800 black crappie and 576,000 fathead minnows were stocked this quarter. Full funding (\$360,000) for the removal and replacement of the fish passage barrier on Trout Creek was received. Phragmites and invasive shrubs were treated at various locations. Total Acres Treated this quarter – 15.2 Acres

EXPECTATIONS/FUTURE PLANS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

Tours continue, presenting at Wisconsin Wetlands, TEPM, RTOC on Oneida Nation Environmental Programs continues. Continued protection and restoration of Reservation habitats, stocking of clean healthy fish, and encouraged and assisted with outdoor recreational activities for the community

Outcome/Goal # 3

Exercising Sovereignty

MEASUREMENT: Land Management is taking an aggressive pursuit of new land purchases.

Number of compliance assistance and regulatory activities carried out for the nation as regulators.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS RELATED TO THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

Working on 4 Closings for this coming year, 3 are 80% completed and 1 is 25% complete, 3 Properties Closed in December; 1494 Cty Line Rd, 2994 E Service Road, 3450 Packerland. Total acres of land purchased December is 6.5 acres. 20 agricultural leases completed and submitted to recording. On the commercial leases, 2685 W. Mason St, Suites A, B, C & F are in draft as we work on lease fees. 6 Land Use Licenses, 4 Service Line Agreements completed. 7 easement requests in process, 2 DOT, 5 Outagamie County that are 50% complete. 16 documents recorded and returned to requester. Verified addresses for Seymour

School District and returned. 12 info TSR's downloaded and sent to requesters. See below for NEPA, Phase 1's. Also completed numerous stormwater compliance activities and one Construction Site Stormwater Inspection of Country Club Road project this quarter, photo below was taken during site inspection of Country Club Road project.



NEPA IHS Project	6	35.45
NEPA Permit Processing Fee Land	1	1
NEPA Permit Processing Trust Land	1	0.39
NEPA Residential Lease/Mortgage Fee Land	4	4.78
NEPA Residential Lease/Mortgage Trust Land	22	8.05
NEPA Service Line Agreement or Utility Easement Trust Land	2	5.9
NEPA Trust Land	8	5.5
Phase 1 All Appropriate Inquiry (AAI)	12	121.29

EXPECTATIONS/FUTURE PLANS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

NEPAs, Phase 1s, Construction Site Stormwater compliance and inspections, Water quality threats investigated, Underground Storage Tanks compliance and inspections and Brownfields remediation will continue to take place.

Contact Info

CONTACT: Eric McLester

TITLE: Environmental, Land, and Ag Division Director
PHONE NUMBER: 920-869-4590
E-MAIL: emclest2@oneidanation.org
MAIN WEBSITE: Enter website address

Photos (optional):



Tony presenting at Annual Oneida Bird Monitoring meeting.



Mike treating invasive phragmites at Cty. H and Ranch Road restoration site.



Extended growth walleye about to be stocked in Oneida Lake.



Nathan presenting at the Wisconsin Tribal Transportation Conference on phragmites biocontrol.



Food is Medicine participants doing meal prep.

